

## Australian Farm Deaths & Injuries Media Monitors Snapshot January 1 – September 30, 2017

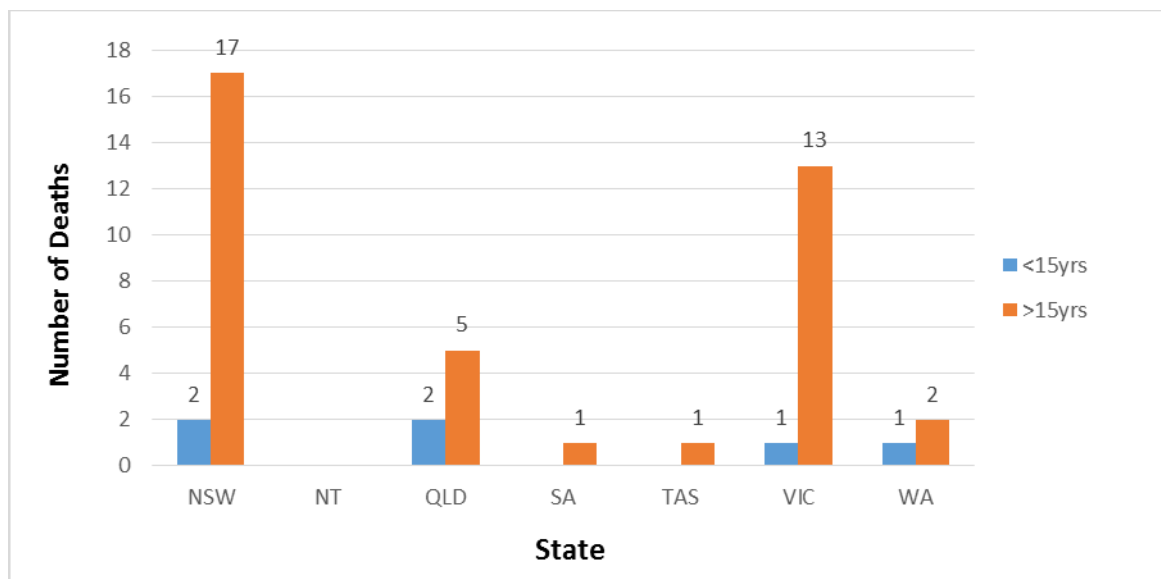
### Background

Australian print and online media provides an avenue to highlight the prevalence of farm related deaths and injuries. The process of media monitoring has been used by the National Farm Injury Data Centre (NFIDC) since 2005 to assist in the collection of information on farm injury events (fatal and non-fatal). This report focuses predominantly on data involving on-farm injury events reported in the Australian print and online media for the period January 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup> 2017. It also captures non-farm quad related fatality and injury over the same period.

### Deaths

There were approximately 28,900 media articles received by the NFIDC from Meltwater during the period. A total of 45 on-farm deaths were reported:

- The overall number of fatal on-farm cases (n=45) is slightly lower than the corresponding period in 2016 (n=47).
- Six of the 45 deaths involved a child aged under 15 years.
- Quads (n=10) and tractors (n=8) were reported most frequently.
- Media monitoring also captures non-farm quad related fatality. There was one additional fatal injury event that occurred off-farm for this period (i.e. there were a total of 11 quad related deaths nationally including farm and non-farm cases).



**Figure 1:** On-farm deaths reported in Australian media by age and state, 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017.

**Table 1:** Agents of injury causing on-farm death as reported in Australian media by age, 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017.

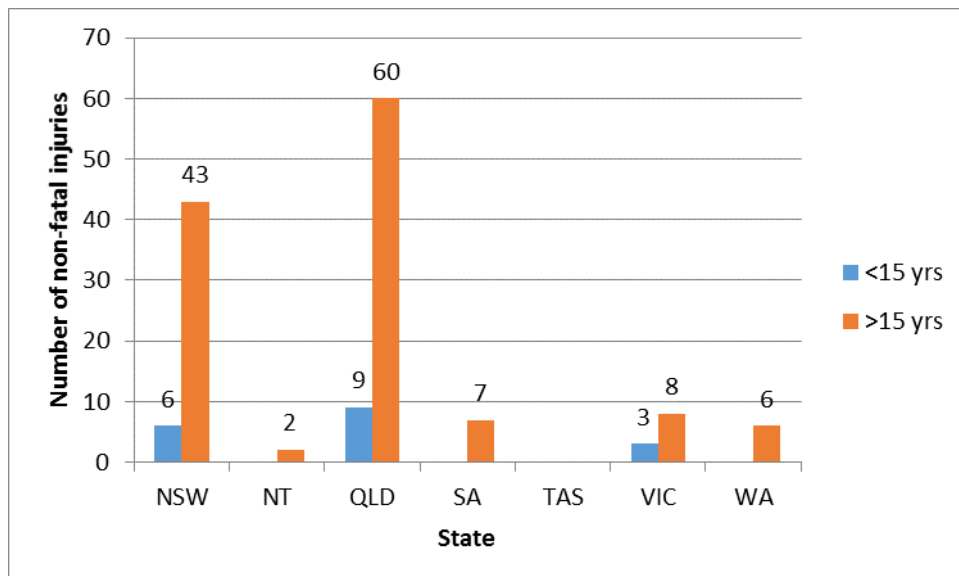
Category	Agent	2016			2017		
		<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total	<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Animal	Cattle		1	1		3	3
	Horse	2		2		1	1
Farm Structure	Dam		1	1		1	1
	Irrigation Channel	1		1			
	Piggery						
	Powerline		1	1			
	Pump		1	1			
	Roof/Shed/Water Tank	1	1	2	1	3	4
Farm Vehicle	Aircraft		1	1		1	1
	Farm Vehicle NEC*		2	2			
	Helicopter		1	1			
	Motorbike		1	1			
	Quad		4	4	2	8	10
	Side By Side Vehicle				1		1
	Truck				1	3	4
	Trailer						
	Utility	1	2	3		1	1
Materials	Rope					1	1
	Materials NEC		1	1			
Mobile Farm Machinery / Plant	Fertiliser Spreader					1	1
	Forklift		1	1			
	Tractor	3	4	7		8	8
	Mobile Farm Machinery / Plant NEC *	1	7	8	1	3	4
Other	Burns		1	1			
	Firearm		1	1			
Working Environment	Fire/smoke/flame					2	2
	Lightning/storm		3	3		1	1
	Trees being fell		3	3		2	2
Workshop Equipment	Grinder NEC		1	1			
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>45</b>

\*NEC: Not elsewhere classified

## Non-fatal Injury

There were an additional 144 non-fatal on-farm injury events reported in the Australian media for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January – 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

- The overall number of non-fatal on-farm cases (n=144) is more than double the corresponding period in 2016 (n=61).
- Nineteen of the 144 injury events involved children aged under 15 years.
- Quad related injury (n=31) accounted for over 21% of all incidents. This was closely followed by horse related incidents (n=22), motorcycle related incidents (n=14) and cattle related incidents (n=16).
- For quads, there were 28 additional injuries that occurred off-farm (i.e. there were a total of 59 quad related non-fatal injuries nationally including farm and non-farm cases reported).



**Figure 2:** On-farm non-fatal injury events reported in Australian print media, 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017.

**Table 2:** Agents of on-farm non-fatal injury as reported in Australian print media, 1<sup>st</sup> Jan- 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017.

Category	Agent	2017		
		<15yrs	≥15yrs	Total
Animal	Cattle		16	16
	Horse	3	20	23
	Animal NEC		2	2
Farm Chemical	Gases NEC		1	1
Farm Structure	Powerline		1	1
	Shed/roof/water tank		2	2
	Windmill		1	1
	Farm Structure NEC		2	2
Farm Vehicle	Aircraft		1	1
	Motorbike	4	10	14
	Quad	9	22	31
	Side By Side Vehicle		2	2
	Tuck		2	2
	Utility		9	9
	Farm Vehicle NEC		1	1
Materials	Hay Bale		3	3
Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant	Earth Moving Equipment		1	1
	Fertiliser Spreader		2	2
	Forklift	1		1
	Harvesting Machine		4	4
	Tractor		11	11
	Mobile Farm Machinery/Plant NEC*		3	3
Working Environment	Fire/Smoke/Flame		3	3
	Ground/rock/stump/hole		1	1
	Tree being felled		3	3
	Working Environment NEC*		1	1
Workshop Equipment	Ladders		1	1
Others	Firearm	1	1	2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>18</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>144</b>

\*NEC: Not elsewhere classified